

In re Patent Application of:
ROY
Serial No. 10/780,258
Filing Date: February 17, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-15, 18-27, 29 and 31-37 remain in this application. Claims 2, 4, 16, 17, 28 and 30 have been previously cancelled. Claims 1, 15 and 27 have been amended.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed study of the application and prior art and notes the rejection that according to the Examiner, all claims are anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0130631 to Maguire et al. (hereinafter "Maguire").

Applicant has amended the claims to place this case in condition for allowance.

All independent claims now recite that the mobile office platform is operative for providing only the N-most recent mail headers of electronic messages to the mail user agent in a default order of mail headers provided by the electronic mail protocol used for accessing an electronic mailbox, and if the default order of mail headers cannot be provided, then providing N-most recent mail headers in an order based on associative information about the electronic mail provider and/or electronic mailbox to be accessed, and if the associative information cannot be used, then downloading all message headers.

Thus, there is a three step process as claimed such that the system determines if the default order of mail headers is to be provided, and if not, then the system

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determines if the associative information is used. If this is not possible, then all message headers are downloaded.

The claimed invention provides a virtual mailbox that is confined to a moving window within the user's mailbox. This virtual mailbox as a moving window is changed depending on what the system can accomplish. For example, the N-most recent mail headers are downloaded in a default order of mail headers if it can be provided. If this is not possible, then the system would download and provide to the mail user agent the N-most recent mail headers using associative information. If that is not possible, then all message headers are downloaded.

Maguire does not address this problem. More particularly, Maguire is directed to providing a unified view of communications events so that a user can determine the context of any received communications event or determine the context of the communications event to be placed. The system receives a SMS message or other communications event and identifies the type of event and notifies the user that a message has been received. The mobile device presents the user with a listing of the most recent communications events that are associated with the originating address of the message. The user is given the option of viewing information about prior communications events, including viewing prior SMS messages and viewing information about the data received for a wireless application protocol browsing session or the call

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length and dates of any placed or received calls. This allows the user to better view and determine the content of a new message. The user can set criteria that must be matched by properties of the incoming communications event for the retrieval of the communications event history. Thus, the user can be presented with a communications event history for selected correspondence and selected types of communications events.

The claimed invention presented in this Amendment is directed to solving a different problem in which users have electronic mailboxes that receive a large number of electronic mail messages. For example, some users could have thousands of electronic mail messages contained within an electronic mailbox. The POP3 protocol used by a mail user agent typically is not intelligent enough and does not have the processing power to request a subset of mail from the mobile office platform. In some instances, the mail user agent retrieves the entire list of message headers before performing any operations. Thus, the mail user agent may not have enough space to hold the message list and any new electronic mail check takes an extended period of time because any function that requires the mail user agent to look at the message list is subject to delays. The battery life of a mobile device can also be drained as a result of downloading a large message list. Some problems occur because of translating from one electronic mail protocol to another electronic mail protocol.

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Not all electronic mail protocols support the retrieval of subsets of electronic mail headers in a message list.

The claimed invention provides a virtual mailbox that is confined to a moving window within the user's mailbox. This virtual mailbox as a moving window can be changed depending on system actions and responses such as choosing an order based on associative information about the electronic mail provider and/or electronic mailbox to be accessed if the default order does not work. For example, the database could be associated with the mail office platform and contain records of associative information for electronic mail providers and/or electronic mailboxes to be accessed.

This is different from Maguire in which the option concerns viewing information about the prior communications events, which includes viewing the prior SMS messages and viewing information about data received from the wireless application protocol browsing session, or the call length and dates of any placed or received calls.

Maguire is directed to solving the problem associated with presenting a communications event history associated with a given correspondent and not providing the virtual window in the mailbox. The communications event in Maguire includes telephone calls and the SMS messages and email correspondences and wireless application protocol sessions. The communications event has two parties such as the user of the mobile device and at least one correspondent.

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Thus, the whole purpose is to provide the user to view the type of communications events and the history as compared to original mobile devices that only provide telephone services.

Applicant contends that the present case is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner mail a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due. If the Examiner has any questions or suggestions for placing this case in condition for allowance, the undersigned attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: **MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450**, on this 18th day of October, 2007.

